

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Anura, Hylidae, *Phyllomedusa azurea*: Distribution extension.

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Phyllomedusa azurea Cope, 1862 (Figure 1), was recently revalidated and included in the species group of *Phyllomedusa hypochondrialis* (Daudin, 1800) by Caramaschi (2006). The geographic range of *P. azurea* was then published as the open formations of the Chacoan regions of Bolivia, Paraguay, and northern Argentina, and in the Pantanal and Cerrado regions of central Brazil (Caramaschi 2006; Frost 2007). Herein, we present the first record of *P. azurea* for the state of São Paulo, Brazil.

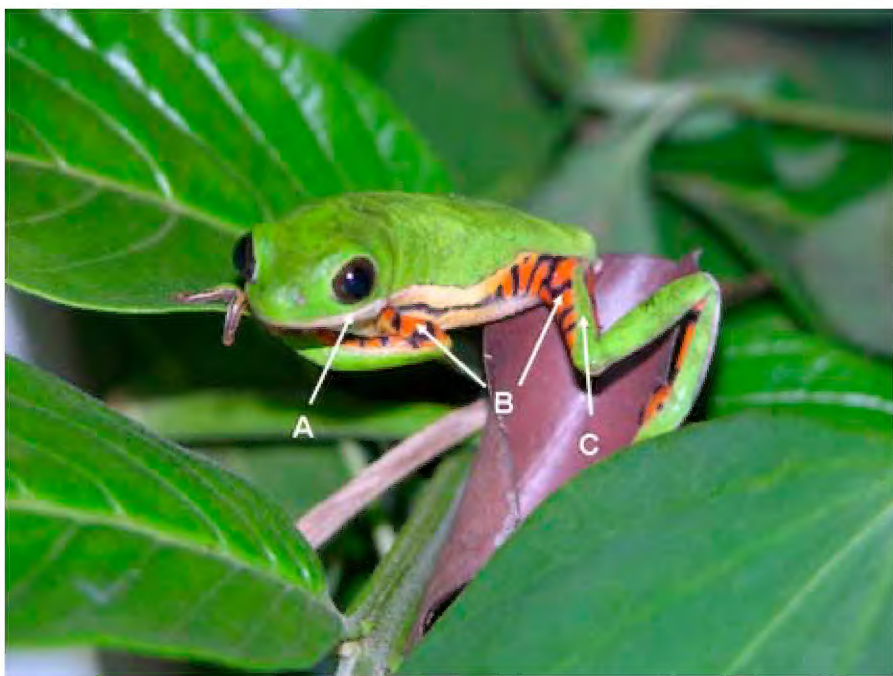


Figure 1. *Phyllomedusa azurea*. Arrows show three of the diagnostic characters of this species according to Caramaschi (2006). A, narrow white stripe on the upper lip, not reaching the lower eyelid; B, inguinal region and sides of members with black transversal bars over an orange or red background; C, wide green stripe along the dorsal surface of thighs.

Two calling males were heard and one was collected in the municipality of União Paulista (20°55'54" S, 49°56'41" W) by R. E. Borges and

F. R. Silva in 25 October 2006. The specimen was found perching on vegetation (Poaceae: *Brachiaria* sp.) within a permanent pond in a pasture area, ca. 350 m far from a semideciduous forest fragment. The pond has 3,118 m² of total area, 90 cm of maximum depth, and 70 % of plant cover (Poaceae). This record now represents the southeastern limit of the distribution of *P. azurea* (Figure 2), which is ca. 360 km from the nearest locality previously known for this species (Serranópolis, in the state of Goiás, Brazil 18°17'37" S, 51°58'10" W).

The voucher specimen was identified according to the diagnosis presented by Caramaschi (2006) and deposited in the *Coleção do Departamento de Zoologia e Botânica* (DZSJRP-16604) housed at UNESP, São José do Rio Preto, São Paulo, Brazil. According to Caramaschi (2006), the revalidation of *P. azurea* and the recognition of *P. nordestina* Caramaschi, 2006, both previously identified under the name *P. hypochondrialis*, demonstrate that three morphologically similar species are associated to three of the great morphoclimatic domains of South America (*sensu* Ab'Sáber 1977): *P. hypochondrialis* with Amazonian distribution, *P. nordestina* associated to the Caatinga region, and *P. azurea* occurring in the Cerrado-Caatinga-Chaco complex (Ceia 1980; Caramaschi 2006; Frost 2007). The record of *P. azurea* in the northwestern region of São Paulo evidences the necessity of additional anuran surveys, even in a well studied region (i.e., previously investigated in Vizotto 1967; Bernarde and Kokubum 1999; Rossa-Feres and Jim 2001; Vasconcelos and Rossa-Feres, 2005; Santos et al. 2007; Santos and Rossa-Feres 2007).

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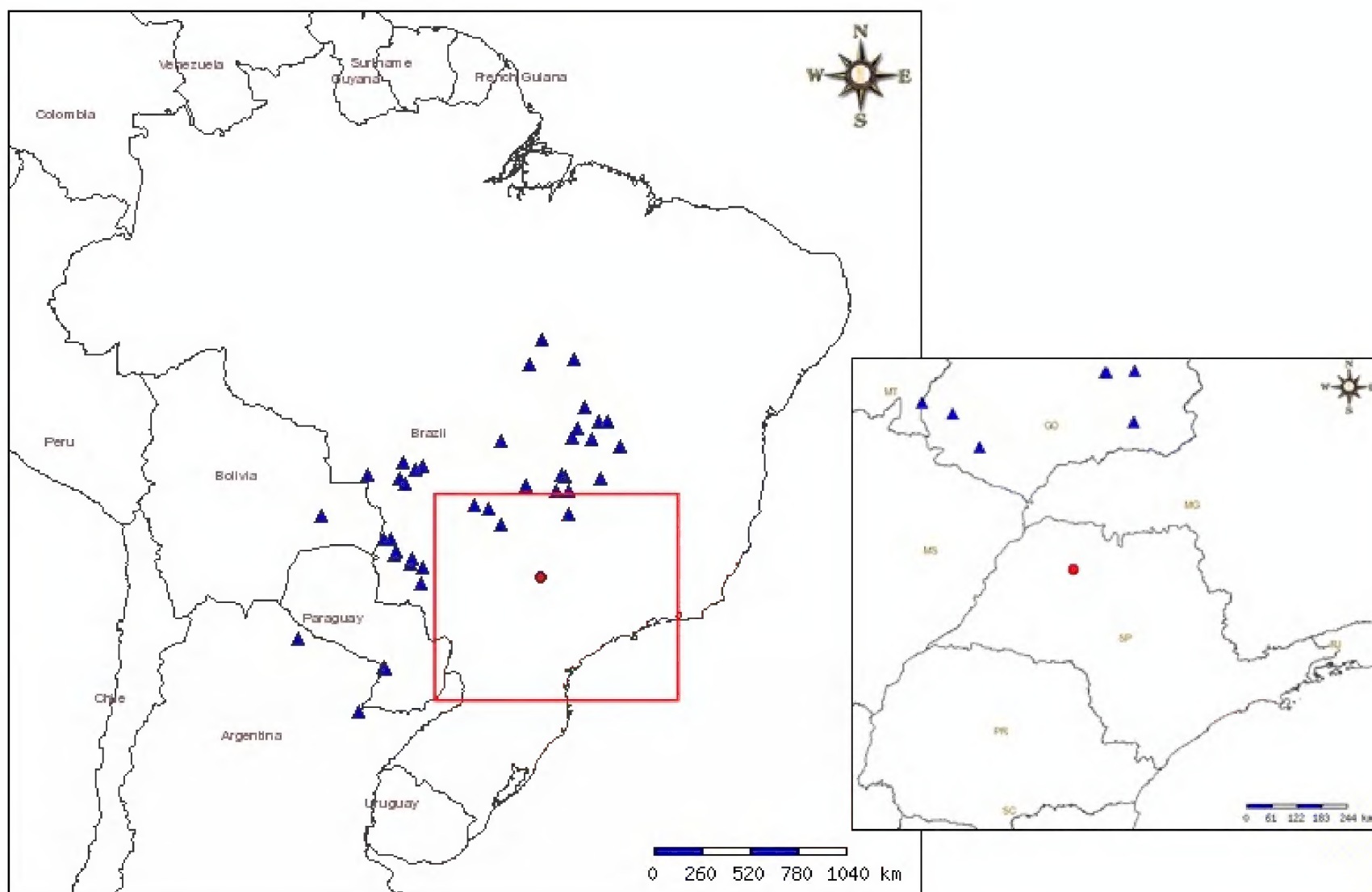


Figure 2. Distribution map for *Phyllomedusa azurea* with the new record for the municipality of União Paulista, State of São Paulo, Brazil (red dot).

Acknowledgements

The authors are grateful to Célio F. B. Haddad for the identification of the specimen collected, and to FAPESP (grant 06/51534-1) for financial support.

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Received August 2007

Accepted January 2008

Published online March 2008

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

ERRATUM

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The authors are grateful to Célio F. B. Haddad for the identification of the specimen collected, and to FAPESP (grants 04/04820-3 and 06/51534-1) for financial support.

We apologize and are grateful for your comprehension.

The authors.

Erratum published online April 2008

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